

# MULTI-COMPONENT TELEPRESENCE SYSTEM AND METHOD

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5           The present invention provides systems and methods for performing  
robotically-assisted surgical procedures on a patient. In particular, a three-component  
surgical system is provided that includes a non-sterile drive and control component, a  
sterilizable end effector or surgical tool and an intermediate connector component that  
10 includes mechanical elements for coupling the surgical tool with the drive and control  
component and for transferring motion and electrical signals therebetween. The drive and  
control component is shielded from the sterile surgical site, the surgical tool is sterilizable  
and disposable and the intermediate connector is sterilizable and reusable. In this manner, the  
intermediate connector can be sterilized after a surgical procedure without damaging the  
15 motors or electrical connections within the drive and control component of the robotic  
system.

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